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Commission for Social Development
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Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups: World Programme of Action for Youth

Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal and Slovenia:* draft resolution

Policies and programmes involving youth

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995 and resolution 62/126 of 18 December 2007, by which the Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth, as contained in the annexes thereto, and acknowledging that the Programme of Action provides Member States with a useful policy framework and practical guidelines for improving the situation of youth,

Reiterating that all 15 priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth are interrelated and mutually reinforcing,

Emphasizing the importance of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the World Programme of Action for Youth, being marked in 2015, and the need for a meaningful assessment of the progress made towards its implementation,

Stressing that the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including in the remaining days of the Millennium Development Goals and beyond 2015, require the full and effective participation of youth and youth organizations and other civil society organizations at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Recalling the proposed set of indicators for the World Programme of Action for Youth, contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[1] in order to assist

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

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Member States in assessing the implementation of the World Programme of Action and thus the evolution of the situation of youth,

Acknowledging the positive contribution of youth, as agents and beneficiaries of development, to the initiatives and discussions on sustainable development in the post-2015 agenda, as well as to the general well-being, progress and diversity of society, as a way of contributing to a progressively fairer distribution of opportunities for them, which will constitute a step forward to economic development, social justice, social integration and equity,

Taking note of the five-year action agenda of the Secretary-General, which identifies working with and for women and young people as one of the five generational opportunities,

Stressing that increased coordination and collaboration among United Nations entities, including with other regional and international organizations working on youth, contribute to making the youth-related work of the United Nations system more effective,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on policies and programmes involving youth;[2]

2. *Reiterates* that the primary responsibility for implementing the World Programme of Action for Youth lies with Member States, and urges Governments, in consultation with youth and youth organizations, to develop holistic and integrated youth policies based on the Programme of Action and to evaluate them regularly as part of the follow-up action on and implementation of the Programme of Action;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to continue the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, including its 15 interrelated priority areas, as a policy framework and practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels, while taking into account the views of youth and youth organizations as part of the effective participation of youth in society;

4. *Encourages* Member States to develop comprehensive policies and action plans focused on the best interests of youth, particularly the poor and marginalized, and to address all aspects of youth development, in line with the World Programme of Action for Youth;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to promote gender equality and the empowerment of young women and girls in all aspects of youth development and to recognize the important role of young men and boys in ensuring this;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to consider, on a voluntary basis, the set of indicators proposed in the report of the Secretary-General[1] for their selection and adaptation in monitoring and assessing the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, giving particular attention to young women and marginalized groups, including indigenous youth, youth in rural areas, youth with disabilities and young migrants, taking into account the national social and economic circumstances in each country;

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[1] E/CN.5/2013/8.

[2] E/CN.5/2014/5.

7. *Also calls upon* Member States to collect, on a continuous basis, reliable, comparable and relevant data, disaggregated by age and sex, to measure progress towards the implementation and monitoring of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and in this regard also encourages Member States to engage youth and youth organizations in the collection, analysis and dissemination of data in the process of assessing progress and evaluating youth policies;

8. *Further calls upon* Member States to give due consideration to youth issues in all appropriate aspects of the post-2015 development agenda, underlining the importance of closely consulting with and actively involving youth and youth organizations in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda;

9. *Encourages* Member States to ensure a coherent and mutually reinforcing approach while implementing all relevant agreed frameworks, including the World Programme of Action for Youth and the post-2015 development agenda;

10. *Urges* Member States to ensure the full enjoyment by all young people of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and other international instruments related to human rights, in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth;

11. *Encourages* Member States to consider including youth representatives in their delegations at all relevant discussions in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and at relevant United Nations conferences, as appropriate, bearing in mind the principle of gender balance and non-discrimination, and inter alia, to consider establishing a national youth delegate programme, and emphasizes that youth representatives should be selected through a transparent process that ensures that they have a suitable mandate to represent young people in their countries;

12. *Urges* Member States to promote the full and effective participation of young people and youth organizations in relevant decision-making processes, including in developing, implementing and monitoring policies, programmes and activities, including those related to the World Programme of Action for Youth;

13. *Reaffirms* that the strengthening of international cooperation regarding youth, capacity-building, the enhancement of dialogue, mutual understanding and the active participation of young people are crucial elements in efforts towards achieving the eradication of poverty, full employment and social integration, and in this regard stresses the importance of promoting access to nationally owned social protection and social services as an important instrument for empowering youth;

14. *Takes note with appreciation* of the increased collaboration among United Nations entities on youth through the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, calls upon United Nations entities to develop additional measures to support local, national, regional and international efforts in addressing challenges hindering youth development, and in this regard encourages close collaboration with Member States as well as other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, particularly youth-led organizations;

15. *Calls upon* donors, including Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to actively contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund in order to facilitate the participation of youth representatives from developing countries in the activities of the United Nations, taking into account the need for

greater geographical balance of youth representation, as well as to accelerate the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate action to encourage contributions to the Fund;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development, at its fifty-fifth session, a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, including progress on the achievements and challenges in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, in consultation with Member States, as well as with the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, taking into account the work done by the United Nations system, and encourages the Secretariat to consult, as appropriate, with youth-led and youth-focused organizations.